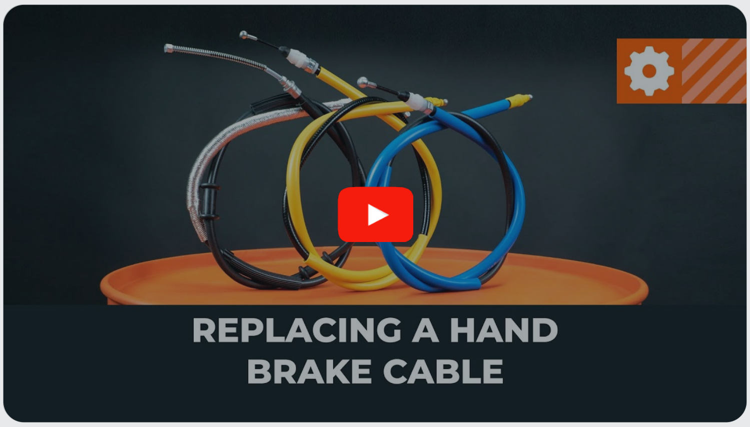
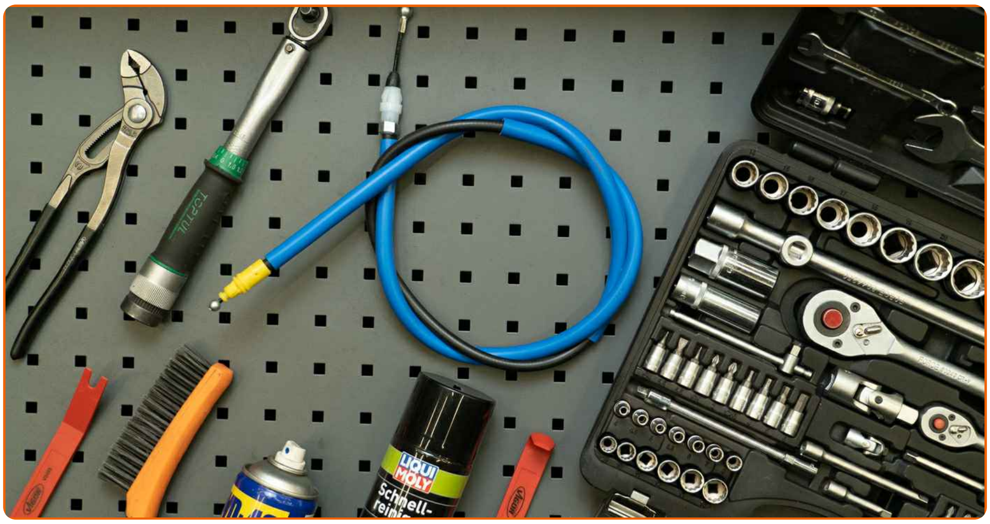
AUTODOC CLUB

How to change hand brake cable on a car – replacement tutorial

VIDEO TUTORIAL



YOU MAY NEED THE FOLLOWING:



- a set of suitable tools
- all-purpose cleaning spray
- wire brush
- WD-40 spray
- pliers
- a set of plastic trim removal tools
- a drum brake repair toolkit

BUY TOOLS

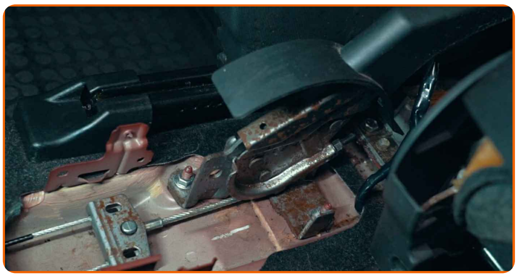
Please note!

- The handbrake mechanism helps to hold the vehicle in place when it's parked
- The handbrake cables transmit the force from the handbrake lever in the passenger compartment to the wheel brake mechanisms
- It is recommended to change all cables at once because they have approximately the same lifespan
- Look at the design and location of the handbrake cables

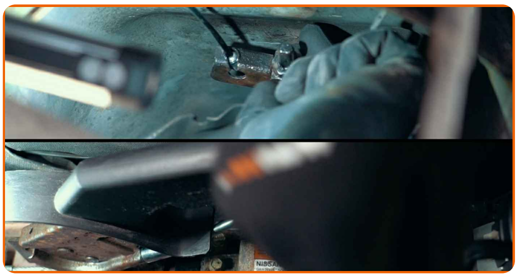
1 The fasteners connecting the cables to the handbrake lever in the passenger compartment are located under the centre console or below it on the underside of the car



2 Remove the centre console



3 Loosen the tension of the cables



4 Remove the rear wheels



The handbrake can use the following types of wheel brake mechanisms

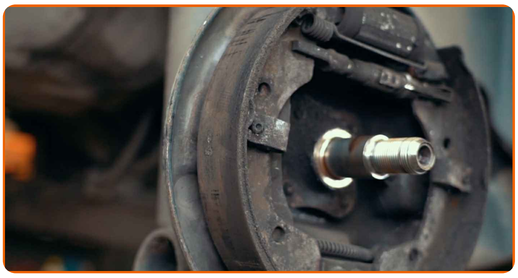
- Rear calipers with the integrated handbrake components
- Brake shoes that are housed inside a drum or disc

5 In the first case, simply disconnect the cables from the cable brackets on the calipers



6

For the second type, you need to remove the calipers, caliper brackets, and brake discs or drums

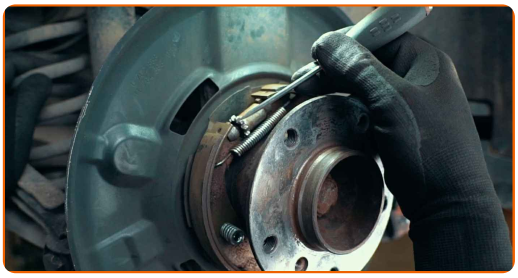


The brake drum or disc might be difficult to remove;

- either because its surface is stuck to the hub or other mounting seat
- or because the handbrake shoes are holding it in place

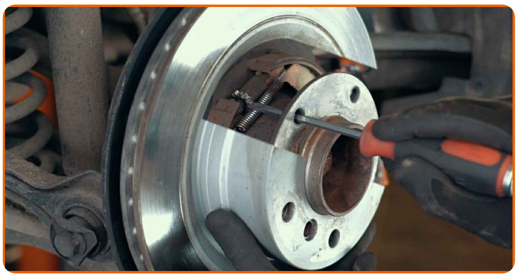
7

In the second case, loosen the brake shoe adjuster



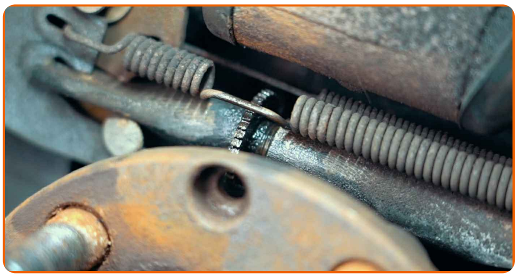
8

The adjuster gear can be accessed via the wheel bolt hole or the hole in the hub



9

The adjuster access hole may be located in the brake backing plate. In this case, the adjustment is carried out from the back of the plate



Important!

- If the adjuster is stuck and the drum or disc is difficult to remove, a special tool will be required

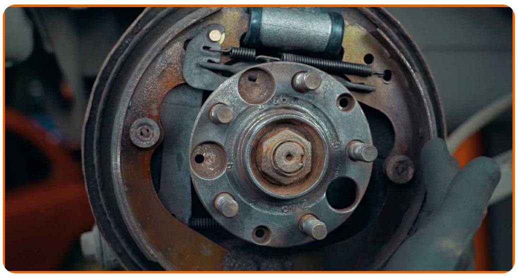
10

You can tap the brake drum with a hammer to make disassembly easier or screw bolts into its service holes, if there are any



11

Check the condition of the brake adjuster, the adjuster mechanism, the springs of the brake shoes, and the drum or disc. Replace them where necessary



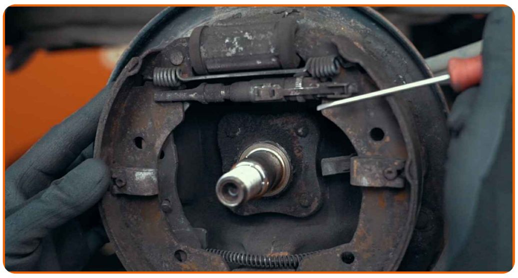
12 Access the cable fasteners; depending on the design, it may be necessary to remove the shoes first



13 Note the position of all the elements and observe their design features



14 Proceed in sequence, first on one side of the axle, then on the other



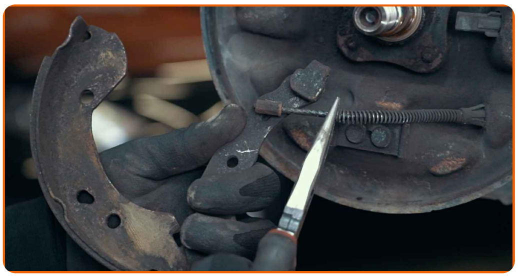
15 First, remove the parts securing the brake shoes. Use a fork-type screwdriver or a special toolkit



Please note!

- Remove the springs carefully to avoid injury

16 Clean and disconnect the cables and their fasteners one by one from the suspension components and the car body



17 Disconnect the cables from the handbrake control lever



Please note!

- Depending on the design, it may be necessary to remove the exhaust heat shields which block the access to the cables and their fasteners

18 Install the new cables and all the previously removed components in reverse order



Please note!

- Handbrake cables may differ in design and length depending on the installation side

19 Adjust the handbrake shoes



Important!

- They must be located at a certain distance from the drum

20 Put the brake drum back on and centre the shoes



21 To do this, press the brake pedal and switch the handbrake on and off several times



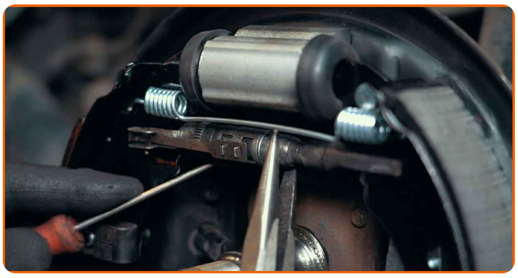
22 Then adjust the position of the shoes using the brake shoe adjuster



Important!

- The drum should rotate freely, touching the shoes slightly

23 Keep adjusting the shoes until you achieve the right result



Be careful!

- Do not overtighten the brake shoes

24 Be sure to adjust the handbrake mechanism on the second wheel



AUTODOC recommends:

- The parking brake must be adjusted so that it does not interfere with the rotation of the wheels when the car is in motion
- When the lever is pulled up 5 clicks, the mechanism should hold the vehicle in place

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